Paper Twine Large Camas Industry

J. W. Duvall Tells Story of Products

By J. W. Duvall,
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I shall attempt to describe in this short article the manufacture of the various sizes and grades of paper twine, its usage and its advantages over cotton, jute and sisal.

The paper twine business is rather old and one that has been in progress of manufacture for many years. Previously the manufacturer only thought of getting the paper soft enough to twist into a cord and left all the water possible in the twine, as you realize that water is cheaper than paper. Later on the twine began to be used in other lines and required a new process of manufacture.

For instance, we will take wool twine. This was formerly a harsh, hard twine almost impossible to tie into a knot that would hold. Especially in the 4-ply, wherever there was a kink it would open up and catch wool between the strands of twine. Then when the string was drawn from the wool, this wool was drawn with it, resulting in considerable loss. This has been corrected by making the twine more pliable, using a formula for softening which keeps the twine soft and pliable, eliminating the waste stated above. Wool twine is also made in 1-ply from a treated paper 2¼ inches wide, 44-pound basis weight. The 4-ply is made of four rolls twisted separately and then run over a plying machine, making it a 4-ply.

Used for Tying Wool

The reason paper twine is used for tying wool is the fact that sisal, jute or cotton, if any of the fibres come off in the wool, will not wash out, and consequently, in coloring they will not color the same as well. Hence, the wool would have to be carbonized in order to eliminate this waste. With paper, any fibers that should possibly adhere to the wool will wash out with no difficulty.

We manufacture all the handle cord used on the Pacific Coast, and Crown Willamette is a very large user of this cord. This cord is used in making shopping bags, which process is patented by Crown Willamette and is under the protection of this patent. There are also various plants on the Pacific Coast which manufacture shopping bags and which use this handle cord.

While with the Crown Willamette, I bought many carloads of handle cord with disastrous results, due to the fact that the manufacturer left all the water possible in the cord, cut it fresh, baled it and shipped it to us in a soggy, wet condition. We, in turn, had to spread it on tables to dry before we could even use it. The cord would get in a crooked, twisted condition which made it difficult for the girls to make a perfect bag. We believed that we could make a cord that would not only make perfect bags but would improve the manufacturing efficiency very materially. This has proven very successful, as every cord is straight, atmospherically moisture dried, and the efficiency of the girls in manufacturing these bags has increased to a marvelous percentage, due to the efficient way in which we make our handle cord.

Seaming cord is made from 3/32 inch to 1 inch in diameter, is wound and made up according to the size of the cord, of many rolls of paper. For instance, 3/32 inches is made up of one roll of paper, while 1 inch diameter is made up of approximately 10 5-inch rolls of paper. This give you some idea as to the process.

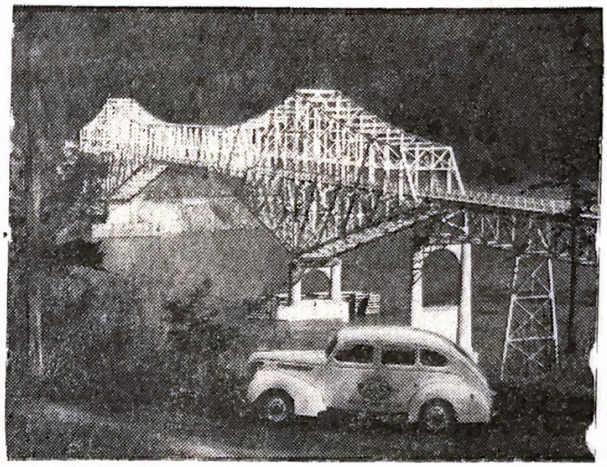
Seating cord is a twine used for the seating of chairs, and one that has quite a large tonnage. These chairs are quite expensive, and the seat is almost indestructible after being woven from this cord. It is a loosely twisted cord made from 3-inch 60-pound basis paper.

Meat Twine Made Here

Ham and bacon twine. Formerly cotton was used for this purpose, but we manufacture now a 2- and 3-ply paper twine in red and blue for tying ham and bacon which is very successful.

We manufacture a garden twine in twine which has been very successful, due to the fact that the mould that is prevalent in the hop industry will not form in our waterproofed paper twine, but will form in cotton twine. Also, the paper twine does not stretch as badly as cotton. The hops are strung from the ground to a wire as high as 16 feet, stretched on poles, so you can readily see that it would be quite necessary to have not only a waterproofed twine but a strong twine to stand the strain.

BRIDGE OF THE GODS NEAR THE DAM



One of the picturesque sights on the Columbia river near Bonneville dam, is the Bridge of the Gods, which connects the Evergreen highway on the Washington side with the famed Columbia River highway in Oregon.

Because the dam will force an immense backup of water, it has been found necessary to raise this well-known bridge to allow deep water vessels to pass under it. This will not be undertaken until 1940, but reconstruction began early this year to reinforce the four present piers above pool level and to build one new pier.

The bridge is owned by the Wauna Toll Bridge Corp. of Walla Walla, and several hundred residents of Washington and Oregon are stockholders. W. H. Tharp and F. Christenson of Stevenson are toll takers and have won the respect of the traveling public for their courteous and affable treatment of all patrons of the bridge.